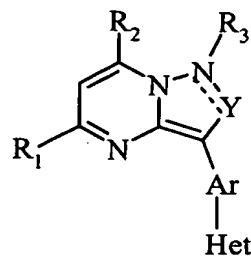


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound having the following structure:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, solvate, stereoisomer, or prodrug thereof,
wherein:

"---" represents the second bond of an optional double bond;

R_1 is hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, $-NH_2$, or halogen;

R_2 is $-NR_7R_8$ or $-OR_{10}$;

R_3 is null, hydrogen, or alkyl;

Y is $=(CR_4)_-$ or $-(C=O)-$;

R_4 is hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, thioalkyl, alkylsulfinyl, or alkylsulfonyl;

Ar is phenyl, phenyl optionally substituted with 1 or 2 R_5 , pyridyl, or pyridyl
optionally substituted with 1 or 2 R_5 ;

R_5 at each occurrence is alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy,
cyano, halogen, alkylsulfinyl, or alkylsulfonyl;

Het is heteroaryl optionally substituted with 1 or 2 R_6 ;

R_6 at each occurrence is alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy,
cyano, halogen, $-C(O)OR_{11}$, or hydroxy;

R_7 is hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, heterocycle, substituted heterocycle,
heterocyclealkyl, substituted heterocyclealkyl, alkoxyalkyl, substituted alkoxyalkyl, aryl,
substituted aryl, aryloxyalkyl, substituted aryloxyalkyl, arylalkyl, or substituted arylalkyl;

R_8 is alkyl, substituted alkyl, heterocycle, substituted heterocycle,
heterocyclealkyl, substituted heterocyclealkyl, alkoxyalkyl, substituted alkoxyalkyl, aryl,
substituted aryl, aryloxyalkyl, substituted aryloxyalkyl, arylalkyl, or substituted arylalkyl; or

R_7 and R_8 , together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, form a
heterocycle which is optionally substituted by 1, 2, or 3 R_9 ;

R_9 at each occurrence is hydroxy, alkylsulfonyl, alkylsulfinyl, $-CH_2-OC(O)R_{13}$,
 $-C(O)OR_{11}$, $-C(O)NR_{11}R_{12}$, alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy, arylalkyl,
substituted arylalkyl, heteroarylalkyl, substituted heteroarylalkyl, aryl, substituted aryl,
heterocycle, substituted heterocycle, alkoxyalkyl, or substituted alkoxyalkyl;

R_{10} is alkyl, substituted alkyl, arylalkyl, substituted arylalkyl, heteroarylalkyl, substituted heteroarylalkyl, aryloxyalkyl, or substituted aryloxyalkyl;

R_{11} and R_{12} are the same or different and independently hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, heterocycle, substituted heterocycle, heterocyclealkyl, substituted heterocyclealkyl, alkoxyalkyl, substituted alkoxyalkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, aryloxyalkyl, substituted aryloxyalkyl, arylalkyl, or substituted arylalkyl; and

R_{13} is alkyl, substituted alkyl, heterocycle, substituted heterocycle, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy.

2. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_1 is hydrogen, alkyl, or substituted alkyl.

3. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_2 is $-NR_7R_8$.

4. The compound of claim 3 wherein R_7 and R_8 together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a heterocycle substituted by 1 R_9 .

5. The compound of claim 4 where R_9 is hydroxy, alkylsulfonyl, alkylsulfinyl, alkyl, substituted alkyl, arylalkyl, substituted arylalkyl, heteroarylalkyl, substituted heteroarylalkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, heterocycle, substituted heterocycle, alkoxyalkyl, or substituted alkoxyalkyl.

6. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_3 is null.

7. The compound of claim 6 wherein Y is $=(CR_4)-$.

8. The compound of claim 7 wherein R_4 is hydrogen, alkyl, or substituted alkyl.

9. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_3 is hydrogen or alkyl.

10. The compound of claim 9 wherein Y is $-(C=O)-$.

11. The compound of claim 1 wherein Ar is substituted by 1 R_5 .

12. The compound of claim 11 wherein R₅ is alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy, cyano, or halogen.
13. The compound of claim 1 wherein Het is substituted by 1 R₆.
14. The compound of claim 13 wherein R₆ is alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy, cyano, or halogen.
15. The compound of claim 1 wherein R₂ is -OR₁₀.
16. The compound of claim 3 wherein Y is =(CR₄)-.
17. The compound of claim 16 wherein R₅ is alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkoxy, or substituted alkoxy.
18. The compound of claim 17 wherein R₈ is alkyl, substituted alkyl, heteroarylalkyl, substituted heteroarylalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, substituted alkoxyalkyl, aryloxyalkyl, substituted aryloxyalkyl, arylalkyl, or substituted arylalkyl.
19. The compound of claim 18 wherein R₇ is hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, or alkoxyalkyl.
20. A composition comprising a compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.
21. A method for treating a disorder manifesting hypersecretion of CRF in a mammal comprising administering to the animal an effective amount of the pharmaceutical composition of claim 20.
22. The method of claim 21 wherein the disorder is stroke.
23. The method of claim 21 wherein the disorder is depression.

24. The method of claim 21 wherein the disorder is obsessive-compulsive disorder.

25. The method of claim 21 wherein the disorder is irritable bowel syndrome.